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MAILED

FEB 19 2009

In re Patent No. 6,770,454
Issue Date: August 3, 2004
Application No. 09/826,045
Filed: April 4, 2001
Patentee: Sean M. Reilly et al

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition, filed November 19, 2008, under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

If reconsideration of this decision is desired, a petition for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.378(e) must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. No extension of this 2-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). **Any such petition for reconsideration must be accompanied by the petition fee of \$400 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(f).** The petition for reconsideration must include the lacking item(s) noted below, since, after a decision on the petition for reconsideration, no further reconsideration or review of the matter will be undertaken by the Commissioner.

The patent issued August 3, 2004. The grace period for paying the first maintenance fee expired on August 4, 2008. Therefore, since this petition was filed within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), this petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

A petition to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 35 USC 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be accompanied by (1) a statement that the delay was unintentional, (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted, and (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2). This petition lacks item (1) above.

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The petition is not considered to contain a proper statement of unintentional delay since the petition is signed by only one inventor. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b)(4), all inventors must sign.

The file does not indicate a change of address has been submitted, although the address given on the petition differs from the address of record. If appropriate, a change of address should be filed in accordance with MPEP 601.03. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the address given on the petition; however, the Office will mail all future correspondence solely to the address of record.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

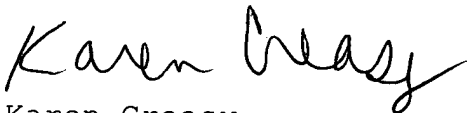
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Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3208.



Karen Creasy
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc:

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